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Hongkong's New Statue



A picture of the statue of King George VI which is on its way to Hongkong. Sculptured by Mr Gilbert Ledward, I.L.A., it stands 10 feet high and has been cast in bronze. The king is depicted in robes of State, as worn at the opening of Parliament.

The statue was first ordered to commemorate Hongkong's centenary, but before the work could be completed, war broke out and by the end of the century year, the colony was in the hands of the Japanese.

BLOOD BATH IN PUNJAB

Shocking Casualties
New Delhi, Mar. 20.

Indications of the extent of the bloody Punjab rioting were reflected to-day in the official casualty estimates, which said 2,049 persons had been killed and 1,103 "seriously injured" in the past fortnight.

These figures were issued before reports from the Rawalpindi and Attack districts, where Hindu-Muslim rioting has been the most ferocious, were received.

A breakdown of the casualties showed that in cities and towns 511 were killed and 944 seriously injured. In rural districts 1,538 were killed and 1,159 seriously injured. British and Indian troops and police managed to bring city rioting quickly under control after the Governor, Sir Evans Jenkins, took over the provincial administration. However, in rural areas, poor communications and other primitive conditions made aid to minority groups most difficult. —United Press.

EDITORIAL

This Unique Colony

SIR Alexander Grantham's appointment to the governorship of Hongkong is an intelligent action by the Colonial Office, if only because he has previously had 12 years' experience of the colony, and, therefore, comes equipped with practical knowledge of its quaint individualism and its inherent conviction that what is deemed proper for one colony, is not necessarily so for another. This part of the British colonial empire has always claimed a certain uniqueness—geographically, commercially, historically and socially. It is jealous of this position and strenuously fights to maintain it. It has always been able to advance good and seemingly logical reasons why it should not be treated as other colonies, one being that, before World War II, Hongkong was fully capable of getting along very nicely without financial assistance from Home. The position has slightly changed, although, financially, it is still not so good as when Sir Alexander was here in 1934. Hongkong is insolvent and without a doubt

Sir Alexander is going to arrive to find an unpopular income tax and an approved Ordinance, and a not very happy community as a result. He is also going to find a public suspiciously eyeing what has become known as limited franchise, encompassed functions, the danger of "suitable" candidates being fostered on the electorate. He is going to discover a wholehearted dislike for commercial interests of government, and an equal insistence on the part of administrative officers that these controls are essential to the recovery of Hongkong. He will be confronted with the financial situation of the colony, finding it virtually impossible to get into the colony, while at the same time, immigration continues at an unprecedented rate. Hongkong, at this time, will probably give Sir Alexander an Alice in Wonderland feeling, that he will also soon appreciate that he has some of the toughest assignments of the colonial empire to-day. Successful handling will call for much tact and ability.

U.S. AID FOR KOREA NEXT ON THE LIST Three-Year Military And Economic Plan

Washington, Mar. 20.
The Administration may soon propose to Congress Lt-Gen John R. Hodge's Korean aid programme, which is even larger than its \$400,000,000 plan to aid Greece and Turkey, as the keystone of its new "stop Russia" policy in the Far East.

The Korean project, which is already in the final draft form, has the approval of Gen George Marshall, who reviewed and approved it in Moscow, and Under-Secretary Dean Acheson, Navy Secretary James Forrestal and War Secretary Robert Patterson, who reviewed and approved it here yesterday.

It reportedly contemplates spending \$500,000,000 to \$600,000,000 in economic and military aid over a period of three years. Of this money, \$200,000,000 would be for the American zone in Korea during the first year of its operation. The remainder would be spent in the following two years to put Korea back on its feet after 40 years of Japanese domination and joint American-Soviet control.

REBUILDING SCHEMES
Most of the first year's funds would be spent in rebuilding railways, providing new locomotives and rolling stock and re-establishing textile mills while the U.S. Army stocks in the Far East would be diverted to Korea to equip and arm a new Korean Army.

It is the Administration's present plan to rush the Korean aid programme to Congress as soon as the credits are voted for President Truman's Greco-Turk aid plan. Informal sources said the State, War and Navy departments already had "sounded" some Congressmen, who said they believe the Korean plan would have a "fair chance" once the Greco-Turkish aid is voted.

Officials would not indicate whether it includes long range assistance to the northern zone of Korea, now under Russian administration.

OXFORD CREW SETS RECORD

London, Mar. 20.
Oxford University boat crew covered the four and a quarter miles from Mortlake to Putney—the reverse direction of the boat race course—17 minutes 58 seconds to-day, breaking the record of 18 minutes 14 seconds set up by Cambridge yesterday.

The crews meet in the boat race on March 20. To-day's was a historic making performance, being the first time that 18 minutes has been beaten for either way of the course. The record from Putney to Mortlake is 18 minutes 3 seconds in which Cambridge won the 1934 race.

Conditions even better than yesterday, particularly over the final stretch where the ebb tide was flowing at something like 5 m.p.h.—said to be the fastest ever—were found to-day. This was the only time this year that Oxford had rowed the full distance on the course.—Reuter.

Maj-Gen John H. Hilldhing, Assistant Secretary of State for occupied areas, said the United States-Soviet split over unifying Korea might require an "interim programme" by the United States in its zone. He pointed out that a weak Korea would be fertile ground for some new disturbance by openly inviting rivalry for her control and later domination by some strong outside power.

If Korea, as nowhere else in the world, the United States and the Soviet Union face each other directly and with identical commitments, he said. Failure of this country to follow through in Korea would deal democracy an incalculable blow. —United Press.

LAB. REBELS DEFEATED

Amendment Ruled
Out Of Order

London, Mar. 20.
The Defence Minister, Mr. A. V. Alexander, to-day flatly rejected rebel Labourites' demands that Britain reduce her armed forces below a million men by March 31, 1948.

"I share fully the feeling that our defence burdens should be reduced at the earliest possible moment," Mr. Alexander told the Commons, "but because of the great dangers which would follow abandonment in part of the maintenance of peace and order in the world, I cannot subscribe to it."

Mr. Alexander moved approval of Government's defence policy after the Speaker, Mr. Douglas Clifton Brown, ruled out of order an amendment offered by 45 rebel Labourites urging a further review of the country's commitments "so as to reduce the burden on our manpower and financial resources."

The rebels had been prepared to support their amendment with arguments that Britain was maintaining a million-man army primarily as "defence" against Russia, with whom this country has a military alliance, and to support reactionary governments in Europe.

ATTACK POSTPONED

The rebels were expected to attack the Government's defence policy despite the fate of their amendment, but now probably will not seek a showdown vote until the Government's conscription bill comes up for debate at a date still to be fixed.

They have joined forces with conscientious objectors within the party to conscription, to introduce an amendment declining a second reading of a bill that would provide for the nation's needs on economic grounds. More than 100 Labourites have already signed this amendment.

Mr. Alexander made only a passing reference in the Commons to British troop commitments in Italy, Venezuela, Greece, and elsewhere, he said. Government hoped that all British forces would be withdrawn from those countries by the end of the next fiscal year—March 31, 1948.

HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of his speech included: (1) The Admiralty and the Supply Ministry expect to spend more than £200,000,000 during the fiscal year on research and development of weapons for the armed forces, presumably including those involving atomic energy.

(2) Britain is willing to publish details of the strength and assignment of her armed forces, but only if the other United Nations do so.

(3) Mr. Alexander gave the Imperial General Staff a memorandum in mid-February on the financial limits within which it can plan long-range defence policy.—United Press.

FALL OF CABINET FORECAST

Ramadier Expected
To Resign

Paris, Mar. 20.

The French National Assembly will record a vote of confidence in the Government's policy towards Indo-China on Saturday and observers here believe that the result will be the fall of M. Ramadier's cabinet.

When the Assembly debated the 8,543,000,000 francs military credits for carrying out the policy to-day, Premier Paul Ramadier declared that he would make the vote "a question of confidence in the Government" after which the debate adjourned until Saturday. Earlier, the Communist parliamentary leader, M. Jacques Duclos, had said that his party could not vote for the credits and informed observers do not believe that the Premier will be able to change the Communists' minds between now and Saturday.

It was considered an almost certainty that M. Ramadier would resign if the Communists, who are the strongest party in the Government and in the Assembly, refused to give him their confidence for the second time within a week.

M. Duclos opened the debate to-day by saying: "We must negotiate with the Government of Dr Ho Chi Minh, which is representative of the Viet-Nam people."

M. Ramadier, in a brief but impassioned speech, told the Assembly that if the Communists persisted in their intention to abstain from voting for the credits they would "greatly threaten" the future of the Fourth Republic.

COMMUNISTS' COURAGE

After complimenting M. Maurice Thorez, Communist Vice-Premier, and his followers for their "determination to protect French interests," M. Ramadier said: "You have courage. You have shown it but I put it up to you face to face."

He strode slowly along the Rostrom until he looked directly down on the Communist deputies. "If you persist in abstaining, you will not only maintain but increase the Communist division which has been increasing in the Chamber and which we (he waved his hand to his own Socialist followers and to the Right-wing deputies) seek to avoid."

The entire Chamber except the Communists, who sat stolidly in their seats, rose to cheer and applaud M. Ramadier. The Premier concluded with a plea for unanimous approval of the credits "to preserve the unity of the country."

M. Duclos, replying to the Premier, said in a thunderous Communist cheer: "If we say that our action would mean the end of France, I say 'no'."

"France could not disappear that easily. The millions of workers whom we represent would not allow their country to vanish over such an issue."

After the debate, M. Ramadier went into conference with the President, M. Vincent Auriol.—Reuter.

Britain's recent blizzards which broke all records, so disrupted communications that turbo-jet engines were called into use to clear the clogged railways. They proved highly successful. These two pictures show twin jets (700 watts each) in and out of action. It was found they could clear an entire line in one day.

House Of Lords Censures Government

London, Mar. 20.
The House of Lords censured Britain's Labour Government by a vote of 119 to 39 to-night for the alleged inadequacy of its measures to meet Britain's economic crisis.

Unlike a similar vote in the House of Commons, the Lords' censure does not entail the collapse of the Atlee Government. It merely reflects the opinion of the Upper House, which is top-heavy with Opposition peers.

The House of Lords divided on the motion put yesterday by Lord Rennell (Liberal) and supported by both Liberals and Conservatives. It said, "This House deplores the inadequacy of the measures hitherto taken and proposed by Government to remedy the economic situation of the country."

Viccount Cranborne, leader of the Opposition, and Lord Cherwell and Lord Beveridge spearheaded the attack on Government with dire warnings of bankruptcy, famine and a lower standard of living as a result of Government's failure to meet the crisis head-on.

CUTTING OUT EMPLOYER

Lord Cranborne said Government was planning the employer out of the picture and was "quite unable to take his place."

Lord Cherwell said, "It is a matter of positive bankruptcy and famine staring us in the face. Britain no longer can be the milk cow for the world. The smaller Allies should be made to realise that we were all in this war together and it is not for Britain to repay every effort they made and replace every ship they made."

Lord Pakenham, replying for the Government, challenged anyone to state where the Conservative Party stood on the main economic issues of the day. He reviewed the difficulties confronting Government when it took office and said coal production was improving.

"It will be the duty of Government, whatever the result of the division," he said, "to continue to shoulder its constitutional responsibilities and try to lead the country in these difficult times."—United Press.

Communist Party Chief Assassinated

Salonika, Mar. 20.
John Zevgous, leader of the Communist Party in Salonika, was assassinated to-day by a member of the Andartes' "Execution Squad."

The police arrested Christos Panou, 30-year-old guerrilla of Serres, who admitted to the police that he had killed Zevgous "for what I suffered in the mountains, suffering for which he was responsible."

Panou told the police he had been trained at Boulakes in Yugo-Slavia. He was a member of the OPLA, which is the execution organisation of the Andartes army.

Panou fired several shots from a revolver into Zevgous' back as the victim passed a theatre. The assassin was immediately arrested.

Panou left the guerrilla force in the mountains near the Yugo-Slav border several weeks ago, coming to Salonika. The police were uncertain whether Zevgous was killed for personal reasons or if the assassination was the result of some intra-party quarrelling.—United Press.

Britain And Germany No More Commitments Declares Bevin

Moscow, Mar. 20.
Mr Ernest Bevin, the British Foreign Secretary, again told the Council of Foreign Ministers here to-day that he could not involve Britain in further financial commitments in Germany and reaffirmed his opposition to the Inter-Allied Control of the Ruhr without economic unity of Germany.

He was replying to M. Georges Bidault (France) who said his government could not be party to an agreement on German economic unity, the level of German industry and reparations, unless France's demand for more German coal was met first.

Mr Bevin said he was ready to discuss any suggestions but he regarded M. Bidault's conditions as making it impossible in advance to reach any kind of solution.

M. Bidault said that France considered a special inter-Allied regime should be applied to the Ruhr as soon as possible and that he hoped the British attitude, as outlined by Mr Bevin yesterday, was not final.

Germany was consuming more coal per head than France and more than twice France's own output, Bidault said.

TIGHTER DISTRIBUTION

The French Foreign Minister asked for tighter control of the distribution of both coal and steel in Germany. This, he said, would permit an increase in exports without affecting the level of German industry.

Opposing any great increase in Germany's permitted steel production capacity, M. Bidault quoted Marshal Vassily Sokolovsky, the Soviet Commander-in-Chief in Germany as saying that to leave Germany an annual capacity of 9,000,000 tons "will mean war within a few years."

The Ministers heard a progress report from their special deputies on Germany to-day and will hear one from the deputies on Austria tomorrow. If they have time they will also discuss the provisional government of Germany.

Both Mr Bevin and M. Bidault said to-day that they were ready to speak on this question.

CALLS IN EXPERT

M. Bidault has summoned to Moscow the Director of the Ministry of Industrial Production to take part as an expert in the coal discussions of the Foreign Ministers. He is one of the leading authorities on coal mining.

Meanwhile the deputies for Germany at to-day's meeting, under the chairmanship of M. Andrei Vyshinsky, again discussed the question of consulting the representatives of the Inter-Allied Reparations Agency. It was agreed to send invitations to representatives to appear before the deputies during the Moscow session, but date has yet been fixed for their appearance.

After a prolonged discussion over the hearing of the views of the other Allied states, during which the British representative Sir William Strang, at Russian insistence, suggested changing "co-belligerent" to "ex-enemy" in the phraseology of the British proposal for the hearing of Allied-co-belligerent and belligerent states, the deputies agreed on the following formula: "The Council of Foreign Ministers and Foreign Ministers Deputies will, at the appropriate stage hear the views of the governments of other Allied and ex-enemy states which participated with their armed forces with the Allies against Germany."

This formula does not govern the participation of such states either in the four permanent working committees or in consultative conferences.

SOVIET OBJECTION

Before the adoption of this formula Sir William Strang, reverted to his suggestion that at such hearings the other allies should be permitted to attend as observers.

M. Vyshinsky objected strongly and said the Potsdam agreement provided for participation of other states directly interested but not as observers when their own problems were not under discussion.

He said the British proposal which Mr Robert Murphy (U.S.) supported, envisaged three categories, namely members, invited states and observers.

M. Vyshinsky saw no necessity for the third category, which would lead to open forums with thousands of questions.

Mr Murphy pointed out the Potsdam language was as broad as the British proposal on this point and that the Allied states had not been satisfied with the arrangements thus far contemplated.

He wanted the broadcast representation of Council of Foreign Ministers so that the council could get the benefit of Allied views.

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Sir William Strang pointed out that his proposal was not contrary to the Potsdam dictum that only invited states could attend and that states with direct interest would be invited. It was rather complementary to the Potsdam agreement.

Mr Murphy felt the matter rested on the question of convenience and did not consider it would greatly inconvenience them to have the allied states present. He insisted on full participation now, pending some decision on how the composition of the working committees would be settled, but might, he added, change his views later.

M. Vyshinsky reiterated that Potsdam was broad enough for Russia and there was no room in his view for other states to come in to make comments and ask questions.

The French reserved their position.—Reuter.

Port Sudan Strike

Khartoum, Mar. 20.
The strike of dockers at Port Sudan became worse to-day, according to the latest reports here.

About 1,000 men are now out in support of their demands for pay increases and bigger free cloth ration. The strikers were joined yesterday by railway labourers.

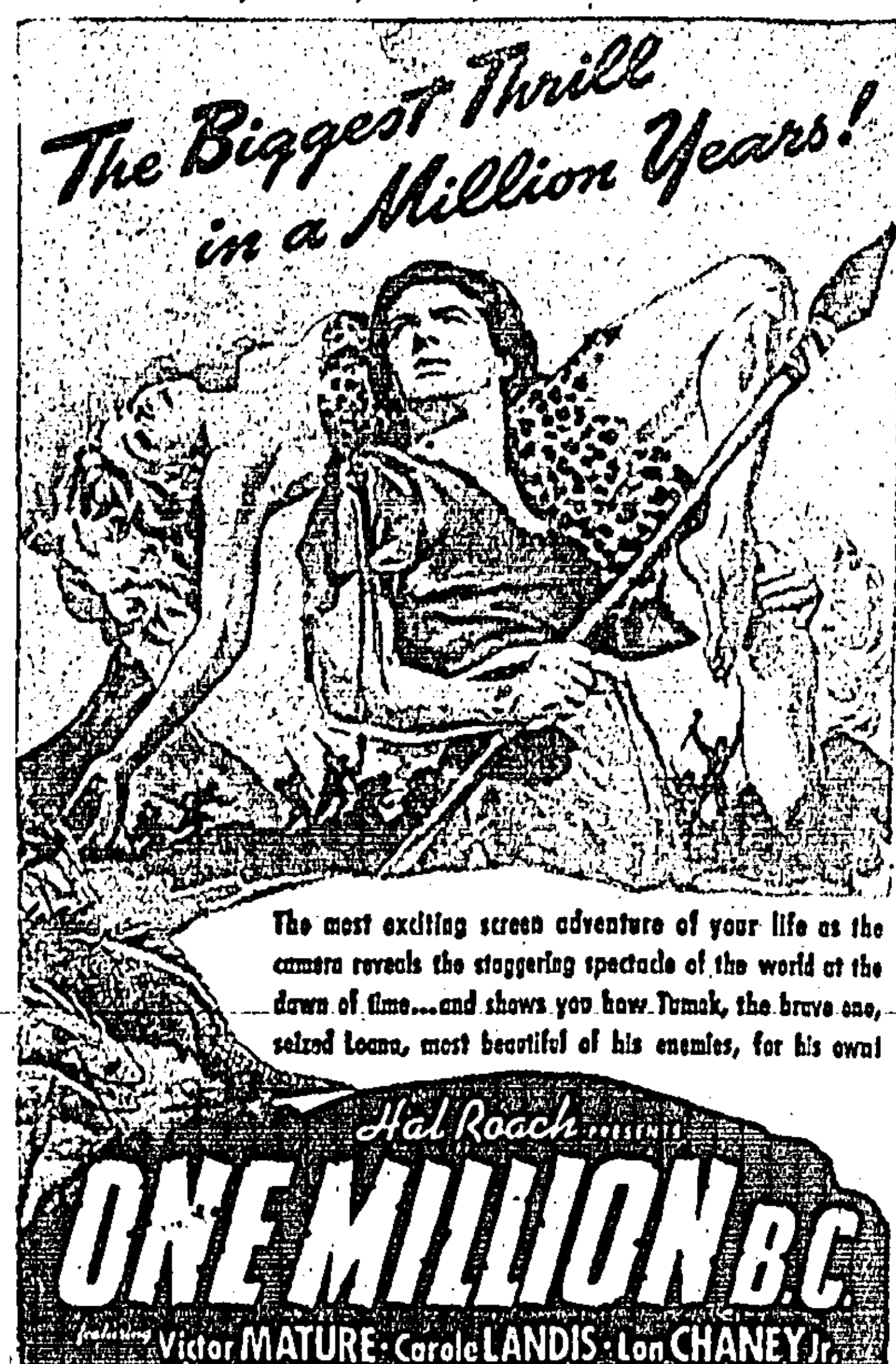
Four ships are now reported to be held up by the strike.—Reuter.

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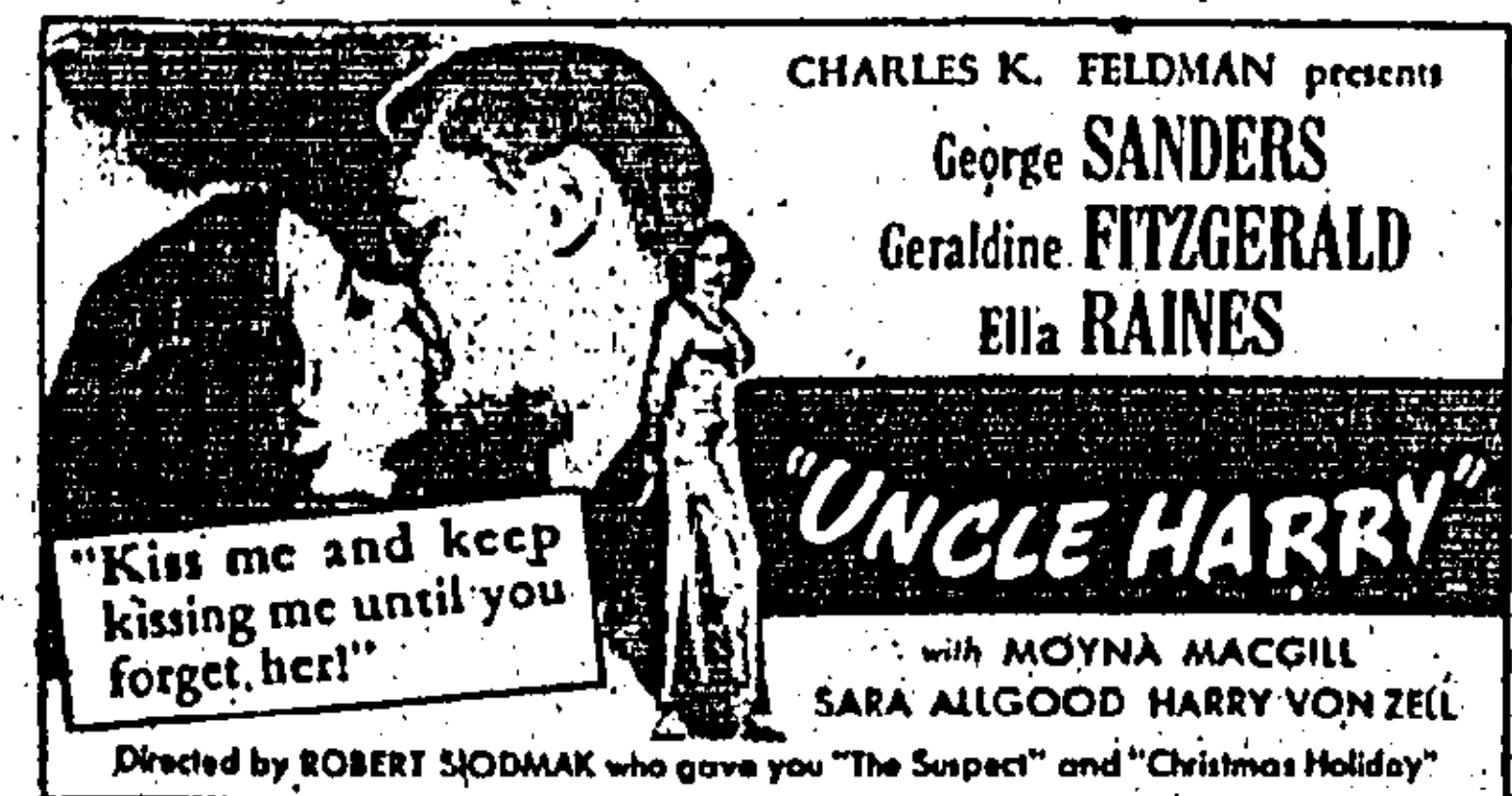
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CONCLUDING HUGH BUGGY'S ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF THE CORAL SEA

JAPANESE PLAN SMASHED

ENEMY aircraft searching for Fletcher's force, sighted Rear Admiral Grace's squadron 40 miles south-west of Jomard Passage. A wave of eight Japanese torpedo carrying planes attacked with plenty of determination, but defective technique.

Two torpedoes thrashed very close to the cruiser Australia, but she was saved by skilful evasive action. Coming in astern of the squadron, 19 heavy bombers attacked from about 18,000 feet, and the Australia was straddled from all directions, but was not hit.

The ships had no air support, but by split second manoeuvring and the steadiness of the neck-neck gunners, they were saved from damage. Five bombers were shot into the sea. Flying bomb fragments killed two ratings on the US Cruiser Chicago and seven men were wounded on the Australian ships.

Had this attack destroyed or dispersed Grace's squadron, it is certain that some of the enemy's troopships would have broken the blockade of the Louisiades and Port Moresby would have been uncovered. So it was that in its successful battle for survival, the Australian squadron played a vital role in the general action.

Deprived of the air cover from the Shoho and a seaplane-carrier and unable to penetrate through either Jomard Passage or China Strait while the Australian squadron remained on guard, the Japanese transport fleet turned north-west.

Two-way Battle

WHEN contact was made between the United States and Japanese carrier-planes south-west of the Louisiades, a terrific two-way battle developed. Seventy-six American planes were hurled into this fight, 36 bombers and scouts, 24 with torpedoes and 16 fighters. A cloud layer had broken over the islands and they had blue sky and perfect vision when they attacked. Just turning into the wind to launch her aircraft.

This carrier was first identified as the Ryukaku and announced as such by the United States Navy Department in its Coral Sea communiqué on June 12, 1942. Some doubt as to her exact identity developed later. The Japanese built their carriers in pairs, Shokaku and Zuikaku, Soryu and Hiryu, Kaga and Akagi. The Ryukaku had a sister ship, the Shoho. In an official report dated March 27, 1944, the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet, Admiral Ernest J. King, stated that the big carrier attacked off Misima Island was the Shoho. An Australian Naval Intelligence report also identified her as the Shoho.

She was blasted heavily just as she turned. A 500-pounder struck her square on the flight deck and kept her from launching her planes.

LIBRARY OF ART PHOTOS

Sir Robert Witt, CBE, who retired recently from his activities as a solicitor in the City of London, is occupying himself with his life-time hobby—the formation of the most comprehensive library in the world of photographs of pictures and drawings of all Western schools of art.

He has now over 500,000 photographs. When the library is reassembled, any student from any part of the world who visits London will be able to find a good copy of any picture he wishes to see.

Sir Robert began his famous collection as a graduate at Oxford and never forsook it. To-day he has voluntary helpers who come in each week and undertake the immense work of pasting the reproductions on paper folders.

She was a fast ship and turned on a lightning circle to dodge the bombs. But, lacking fighter cover, she was wide open to methodical assault. Three 1,000-pounders ploughed up her decks and flames shot through.

Torn To Pieces

TORPEDO—planes coming in beneath the dive bombers loosed torpedoes which hit her amidships and practically tore her to pieces. Hit by ten heavy bombs and fifteen torpedoes, the Shoho completed three turns, stopped dead, and then, trailing a huge cloud of smoke and flames, went down with most of her planes still on board.

Just as the carrier vanished from the sea under her flameshot cloud, bombs smashed the superstructure and stern of a heavy cruiser. She staggered under the terrific pounding and sank in a welter of smoke and flames.

Reacting sharply to these two severe blows, the Japanese hurled into the fight more planes from their remaining two carriers. They also brought in bombers from Rabaul, while shore-based Allied bombers from Port Moresby and North Queensland helped in the reconnaissance and added their fire to that of the Navy planes. Finally, in the growing darkness, the opposing forces broke contact.

Mengre details of the air-sea struggle were released to Australia's daily newspapers. The continuing battle was followed with anxiety by all Australians, as none failed to appreciate its crucial importance for this country.

Jap. Claims

WITH its customary irresponsibility, Tokyo Radio claimed the sinking of the United States battleship California and the US carrier Saratoga (neither of which took part in the engagement), and the British battleship Warspite, which was 10,000 miles from the Louisiades.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin) told Parliament that the battle would not decide the war, but would determine the immediate objects to be pursued by ourselves and the enemy and would vitally affect the whole conduct of operations in this theatre.

Fletcher's task force, in May 8, once again carried the attack to the Japanese. His scout planes reported three enemy carriers and a large force of cruisers and destroyers, the enemy having changed course during the night. Fletcher's bombers this time had to stretch out to longer range and the weather had become dirty. Rolling storm clouds screened the enemy ships and the Japanese commander was making full use of weather cover. In this

he was partly successful and the bombers and torpedo planes became separated. Disaster to the Shoho on the previous day prompted him to devise special measures to protect his carriers. Each flat top had two cruisers and three destroyers packed around her.

A swarm of Allied bombers plunged through the nimbus cloud and emerged just astern of the Japanese carrier Shokaku. She swung a sharp right turn and opened all her guns.

Ack-neck fire bounced the bombers, but did not stop them. The big carrier homed up with an empty flight deck. Its planes had gone after our carriers. Torpedoes were cut loose and, catching the carrier under the stern, staggered her badly. Bombs tore great holes in her flight deck and billows of smoke were shot through with orange flame.

Lexington's End

THE carrier swung to the left with a mile-long smoke trail. Her deck was badly wrecked and the flames grew brighter. A single ack-neck gun in the stern was still firing, and two attendant cruisers were blazing away at the attackers as the bombers raved on. When the fires on the Shokaku were mastered she was just able to struggle back to Truk.

Again the Japanese reaction was swift. Thirty-six dive bombers and eighteen torpedo planes from the Shokaku and the two other carriers launched a counter attack while the Allied planes were still attacking.

Their principal target was the 33,000-ton carrier Lexington, which was hit by two torpedoes and two bombs and further shaken by near misses. Her crew fought and beat the fires and recovered her aircraft. Several hours after the battle, while the carrier was steaming at 20 knots, she was rocked by a terrific explosion which started fires in many parts of the ship. Ignition of petrol vapour from fractured petrol lines below decks was believed to be the cause.

For five hours Lexington's crew fought heroically to save the ship, but the explosion had smashed the fire-fighting gear. Wounded men were transferred to destroyers, and, with flames sweeping along her entire length, the carrier was abandoned. The destroyer Phelps sank her with torpedoes.

Jap. losses

THUS ended the first engagement in naval history in which surface ships did not exchange a single shot. It was a unique running sea-and-air battle fought between the opposing forces over an area of hundreds of miles.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

THE fox had gone away. The pack was in full cry. The women in bowlers were bobbing up and down on their horses like puddings on a broken conveyor-belt.

Suddenly a newcomer joined the field. But he was riding a camel, and yodelling Arabic nonsense, as he plumed along. As he drew alongside the pretty daughter of a J.P. he leaned sideways and drew her on to his horse. "What the devil are you doing?" she cried. "Hush," said the intruder, "thy desert lover, Zubzub el Marzharat, has come to carry thee off to his wife! And at that moment she recognised, beneath the sham swartheness, the coarse face of Captain Foultenough.

Soft answer

A LANDLORD who set fire to his house in order to get the tenant out reminded me of that Earl of Kildare who, when reprimanded by Henry VIII. for burning Cashel Cathedral, said, "I'm so sorry, Sir, but I thought the Archbishop was inside."

Conversation in Madras

I SEE that a reward is being offered to anybody who can do

the Indian Rope Trick. Some say it is partly an illusion, that the boy isn't really ever there. Others go further and say that there is neither rope nor boy. But an old fool in Madras told me once that even the audience is not really there. "How could it be," he added, "since it is well known that there is no such thing as existence?" "But somebody," said I, "must exist to know that there is no existence." "No," said he, "it is because nobody exists to know anything that we know that there is no existence to be known." "Oh, have a date," said I impatiently. "They don't exist," he said, taking one, "but I will try the idea of a date conceived by your dream-self." And he bit heartily into my idea of a date.

"There goes Flash!"

THE British Snail-Watching Society says that "snail-watching needs a clear head and a steady eye." And sound nerves. The excitement of waiting for a movement is akin to the peculiar strain imposed on people who watch chess. In fact, I knew a man who tried to teach snails to play chess. But not one of the beasts could be induced to move like a knight. He was in love with a rather frivolous girl, who found all this foolery with snails beneath contempt. Her name turned out to be Gackwyder.

POCKET CARTOON



"Single?" "That's my business!"

According To Culbertson

(Copyright 1947, by Ely Culbertson)

At times the defence consists solely of guiding the declarer to the wrong finesse. For example:

South, dealer

East-West vulnerable

NORTH		EAST	
♦ K Q 5		♦ A J 10 8	
♥ A 3 2		♥ K 8	
♠ 5 3		♠ 9 7 2	
♣ 10 8 7		♣ 5 4 3 2	
♠ 9 7 4		♠ A 7 10 8	
♥ J 10 6 5		♥ K 8	
♦ Q J 10 8 4		♦ 9 7 2	
♣ 6		♣ 5 4 3 2	
SOUTH		EAST	
♦ 5 3 2		♦ A 7 10 8	
♥ A 7		♥ K 8	
♠ A K 6		♠ 9 7 2	
♣ A K Q J		♣ 5 4 3 2	

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 club	Pass	Pass	Pass
2 no trump	Pass	Pass	Pass

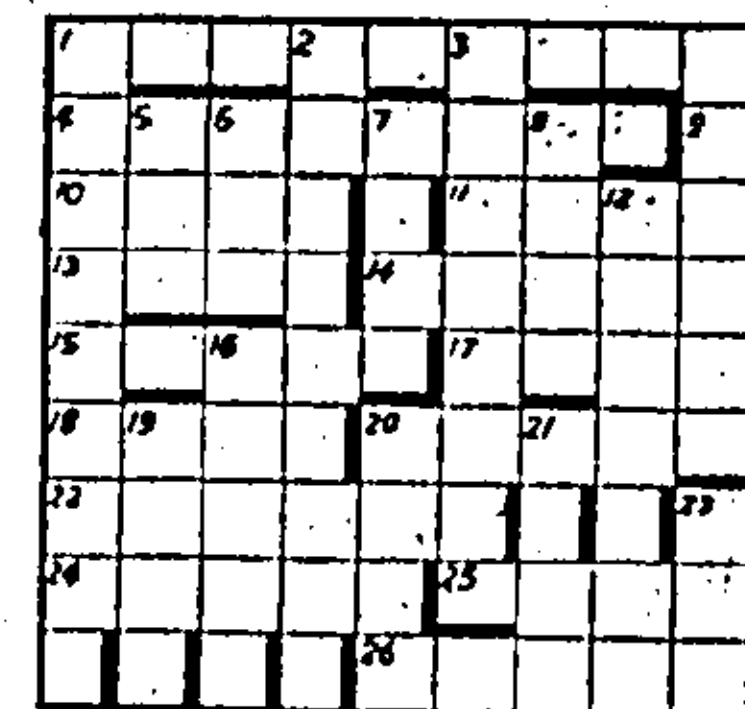
South's leap to three no trump, without anything resembling a spade stopper, was a bold action, but, most definitely, was the only action that had a grain of logic. For one thing the opponents might not lead spades; for another, the suit might be only four cards long in a defender's hand; for a third, North might turn up with a spade stopper.

West led the diamond queen. South won, cashed two clubs, then led a spade toward dummy, hoping to find the ace in front of the king-queen.

East dashed, that hope by capturing the queen with the ace. When he returned a diamond and South's last stopper in that suit was knocked out, there was only one hope left for declarer. Patently, he could win only four clubs, two diamonds, and one spade, so the heart finesse became an urgent necessity. South crossed to the spade king and took the finesse, and its success was the success of the game contract.

East was in too great a hurry when he won the first spade lead. It was "not difficult" to visualize South's exact holding and to foresee that if South found an unfavourable spade position he would have to fall back on a heart finesse which East knew would succeed. Thus, East should have ducked the first spade lead without the slightest hesitation, and it would have required second sight on South's part to risk the heart finesse then and there, when apparently he had discovered that two spade tricks were there for him.

CROSS WORD



Infinitely to be gained by every sort of flattery. (15)

17. It is a fact in the neck. (4)

18. The warning of women's intuition. (4)

20. As the hart for cooling streams when heated in the chase. (6)

22. This tale is a strap. (6)

24. A line for dye. (3)

26. Some weed. (4)

28. Desot. (5)

Down

1. She's a relative obviously. (9)

2. Bravely. (9)

3. With blazing river. (9)

5. Well-known river. (9)

6. Used by the heinamann. (9)

7. To draw or paint especially in water colours. (4)

8. Moderately to cinema. (2-2)

9. See 1 across.

12. Kinky that the cut reel should give an address. (7)

16. Items for a chance. (5)

19. Amen to the long hair. (4)

20. Crusty they may be, but they are nice. (4)

21. Close by. (4)

23. Beginning a Federal Union. (3)

25. Solution of yesterday's puzzle—Asterisk and U. Companion of Illegality. 7 rhinos; 10. Ointment; 12. Gutter; 13. Moll; 15. Apollo; 16. Gnyai; 19. Jan; 20. 21. Gnyai; 22. Line; 24. Gnyai; 25. Gnyai; 26. River; 27. Dami; 28. Gnyai; 29. Gnyai; 30. Gnyai; 31. Gnyai; 32. Gnyai; 33. Gnyai; 34. Gnyai; 35. Gnyai; 36. Gnyai; 37. Gnyai; 38. Gnyai; 39. Gnyai; 40. Gnyai; 41. Gnyai; 42. Gnyai; 43. Gnyai; 44. Gnyai; 45. Gnyai; 46. Gnyai; 47. Gnyai; 48. Gnyai; 49. Gnyai; 50. Gnyai; 51. Gnyai; 52. Gnyai; 53. Gnyai; 54. Gnyai; 55. Gnyai; 56. Gnyai; 57. Gnyai; 58. Gnyai; 59. Gnyai; 60. Gnyai; 61. Gnyai; 62. Gnyai; 63. Gnyai; 64. Gnyai; 65. Gnyai; 66. Gnyai; 67. Gnyai; 68. Gnyai; 69. Gnyai; 70. Gnyai; 71. Gnyai; 72. Gnyai; 73. Gnyai; 74. Gnyai; 75. Gnyai; 76. Gnyai; 77. Gnyai; 78. Gnyai; 79. Gnyai; 80. Gnyai; 81. Gnyai; 82. Gnyai; 83. Gnyai; 84. Gnyai; 85. Gnyai; 86. Gnyai; 87. Gnyai; 88. Gnyai; 89. Gnyai; 90. Gnyai; 91. Gnyai; 92. Gnyai; 93. Gnyai; 94. Gnyai; 95. Gnyai; 96. Gnyai; 97. Gnyai; 98. 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Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed for Lois Leeds.

There are beautiful things in the Gift Parade this year.

THIS AND THAT!

As we draw nearer to Easter it's time for me to give you some of the highlights on gifts and giving.

This year in the Number One on the gift parade. And women appreciate gifts of fragrance because so often they just won't buy it for themselves. But, take a tip and buy either the favourite perfume of the person whom you are "gifting" or follow this idea.

Flower fragrances for Blondes. Sophisticated odours for women of Fashion.

Exotic odours for Dark Brunettes. And Violet or Rose for any "little old lady" on your list.

Jewellery is also a topper on gift lists. Gold jewellery and Rhinestone pieces are new. But, watch it. Buy small, glittering pieces for the small, vivacious woman and big, handsome pins and clips for the tall woman and the woman of fashion.

Beauty Boxes are wonderful gifts. Even little overnight boxes, filled with small sizes of favourite cosmetics.

If you give bath powder, try to get it in the fragrance that is used by the person who is to receive it. And if you give several bath items, get all of them in one matching odour.

Do up your gifts in smart and attractive fashion. Tie small boxes, choose new colour schemes. Let your gift wrapping bespeak thought and real planning. Pink paper tied with Brown ribbons, Silver paper

Miss Mabel's
by GABRIELLE



The new hat lines are now ready for Spring. So, get your new headpiece—and it's up, up, UP, for the hair to harmonize with the gorgeous new hats which are being inspired by Fashion History!

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"We broke our engagement again tonight—this time he said the perfume was and I was wearing what I thought was my most alluring scent!"

Japanese Help To Plan New Manchuria, But Chinese Ignore Advice

By JOHN RODERICK
Associated Press Staff Correspondent

The Japanese in Changchun, which I visited recently, are helping their conquerors to plan the rehabilitation of a great broken industrial empire.

Japanese technicians, economists and scientists have been put to work in Manchuria to aid the Chinese Government in drawing up a programme of reconstruction.

Scottish newsletter

Scotland's War Losses

BY GARRY LANZIL

Now here's a thing for Scots to digest and for the other races that make up this marvellous island of Britain to think about also. The number of Scots who were killed in the war just ended was 29,000. That is 5,000 more than Scotland's proportion on a population basis. On this basis England and Wales should have lost 216,177, and actually lost 217,000. Northern Ireland came out of it best with a death roll of 3,000. On the proportionate basis 6,715 Northern Irishmen would have been killed.

These figures are given in the pamphlet just issued by the Scottish Secretariat, 28, Elmbank Crescent, Glasgow, should anyone be interested in getting it. The book is called, "Scotland's War Losses." The author, Mr. Duncan Duff, gives as his conclusion, the observation that for Scotland Union is Death and not strength. Duff adds that the solution for Scotland is Home Rule and he concludes: "No country has ever given more in war and none has gained less."

These hard facts make one think, but in the event of a home rule, the Scots would really round as they have always done. In spite of the figures, we are very proud when an Irishman like Montgomery says: "For a good killing match, give me Scotsmen." Lloyd George paid a greater tribute to us in the 1914 war when he said there were not enough Scotsmen in Britain's hour of need. A remark endorsed not so long ago by Winston Churchill.

Drink And Coal

In these circumstances, then, it isn't surprising that the Scots turn to drink! But, if it is any consolation to you, Mr. Duncan MacLennan was telling us in Glasgow the other day that drunkenness is less rampant. Mr. MacLennan is president of the Scottish Temperance Alliance, and while he pointed out a falling off of drunkenness he also emphasised that the drink problem was still a serious one. From his figures, it would appear we Scots spend 200,000,000 a year on intoxicating liquor, which is 1,150,000 a week or £165,000 a day. Impressive figures. Mind you, if it were possible to add the money for the consumption of drink by Scots over the border and also abroad, I am sure Mr. MacLennan would get even more staggering figures!

Still, in spite of drink, we can hold up our heads in any company. Apart from our recent war record, here is another item which will give satisfaction. The Scots miners continue to show the way in the output of coal in Britain. I saw the figures for one week in February, and they were truly remarkable. Well may our pitmen be proud of them. The tonnage taken to the pits for a week was 478,651 tons which was greater than the best week of the month by over 3,000 tons. To give a better idea of the progress in output, however, you have to go back a year and examine the figures then. The output for February 1947 were up on 1946 by 31,700 tons.

No more need be said except that mining was never healthier in Scotland than it is today. More men are going into the coal industry these days than are leaving it. This is the happy state in Scotland and we would like to see it all over Britain. Until the rest of the country can follow our example we shall have serious industrial problems.

News In Brief

Glasgow Armies battled six hours to save 6,000 ton cargo ship, Drilman, burning on the Clyde. Peterhead fishermen set up new record catch of 35,000 stones of white fish in a week with seine nets valued at over £5,000. McEwen will hold their first flower show since 1939 on August 30. Rev. Nigel R. McEwen, Lochelly, has been appointed to the North Barony Church, Glasgow. Lord Moncrieff, senior judge of the Court of Session, succeeds Lord Cooper as Lord Justice Clerk. Mr. George Coow, Headmaster of Leith Academy Primary School, was retired. 600 foundry workers from the Carron Ironworks, Falkirk, have returned to work after an unofficial strike. New postmaster of Bathgate is Mr. J. R. McDonald, Biggar. Guardhouse, Laundry, near St. Andrews, has been destroyed by fire. Sir George Cunningham will be installed rector of St. Andrews University on April 9. Two new playing fields under the King George Foundation will be created at Broughton, Peeblesshire, and Kinross. There is little likelihood of domestic coal supplied

So far, however, the discouraging job of restoring blood to prostrate Manchuria has proceeded little beyond the drawing board stage.

Most of the Japanese are working with the Chinese economic mission and some scientists are teaching at the University. The remainder are petty technicians.

The Chinese, however, are ignoring much of the advice on the day to day economic problems and long-range policy, in an entry, this seems costly in view of the years of experience accumulated by the Japanese in Manchuria.

Top-ranking technicians are living fairly well, according to Oriental standards. They are getting as much as the Chinese in comparable positions. Lesser workers, however, are just getting by.

No Restraint On Russians

The Russians are the second major group of foreigners in Changchun. They now number 103 and are moving about without restraint. Some, lacking houses, still live in a downtown building where they were "protectively interned" for months during the anti-Soviet hysteria. Nanking plans to make Changchun a semi-capital without official designation as such.

If, and when the Nationalists take Harbin and Tsitsihar, the Generalissimo's Manchurian headquarters will be moved to Changchun from Mukden.

Changchun, which 15 years ago was little more than a village, now has a population of probably about 400,000. Unemployment is growing, and war nerves are faint.

During my visit I saw groups of civilians marching down the frozen streets carrying shovels. Later I learned that they were in the defence corps, composed of all males between 18 and 45 years old, and are being employed to clean up the city and build pillboxes.

Changchun has 14 newspapers, but on March 10 were reduced by government order to one for each because of the paper shortage.

TARGET FOR ROCKET FIGHTERS

Although war in the Pacific ended over a year ago, there is still one spot on the coast of Japan where the blast of exploding rockets blends with the roar of low-flying fighters swooping in for the kill. Scene of spectacular air-to-ground attacks, it is the target area for rocket-firing fighters of the British Commonwealth Air Group.

Air Group Station, Mito, BCAR's armament practice camp, is commanded by Wing Commander J. G. Topham, DSO, DFC, one of the top ranking fighter pilots of the Royal Air Force.

During the next few months, every squadron in the Air Group will have completed a course at this camp, and observers from all Services come to watch the tests. The target area is located well away from the Station. Over an area of 100 yards, the ground has been churned and pitted by weeks of intensive bombardment. The pilots fire 40-pound rockets from a range of 1,000 yards at a 10-foot square target. From an aircraft moving at 300 miles an hour, split-second timing is needed to strike the target—but the pilots achieved this time and time again.

First fighters to complete the course were from No. 77 Squadron, RAF. The early trials were really experiments, but the squadron commander, Squadron Leader Dick Wilson, set the standard in his first attack when he shattered the target. In one demonstration, he scored four bulls. The squadron set a remarkably high standard. Pilots fired 600 rockets, and the average error was 15 yards. The rockets have a lethal area of 300 yards.

to housewives being cut in Scotland for several months. Edinburgh University have bought the Bush and Dryden estate near Edinburgh to increase their facilities for agricultural research. Parkhead Forge Silver band won the Scottish Championship with West Calder Public runners-up. Entries for the Drama Festival this year were 340 made up of South-west Division 110; Highland 72; North-east 62; Central 44; and South-east 43. Finals are at Inverness on April 10 to 12. Died—Councillor Tom Stevenson, Edinburgh; Miss Ann Spence Black, the Edinburgh artist, Provost Philip Turnbull, Dunbar; Colonel Robert Walker, Culter Lodge, near Aberdeen, a well-known agriculturist.



PIONEERS DID WELL IN WAR

King George VI has conferred on the Pioneer Corps the prefix "Royal" in recognition of its work during the war.

Formed in 1939 from Army Reserves, the then Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps served with the British Expeditionary Force in France until the withdrawal in 1940. Many Pioneers fought bravely in defence of such places as Boulogne and Dunkirk, although the corps was armed only for defence on a 25 percent basis.

Their gallantry against heavy odds and in conditions of desperate disadvantage won them the privilege of becoming a fully combatant corps when they reformed after the evacuation. In July 1940 they numbered 25,000 men; in June 1945 their strength had been expanded to 100,000 United Kingdom and over 270,000 non United Kingdom personnel.

Solid Beachheads

In North Africa, Pioneers built and maintained airfields, bridges, roadheads and railheads and constructed ammunition and supply dumps, often in forward areas under enemy shell and mortar fire.

During the critical battle of the Kassarine Gap, Pioneers held defences in the vital area. In Sicily and Italy they enhanced the reputation they had already won. At Salerno and Anzio they landed with the first waves of the assault troops and their prompt establishment of beachheads, too solid to be over-run by the heavy enemy counter-attacks, made final success possible. At Anzio General Mark Clark, the American GOC of the Fifth Army, specially commended them for their unequalled work in setting in motion, on an open shore, a flood of 5,000 tons of supplies a day; which continued without a break for three successive days.

Fought At Arnhem

On D-Day in Normandy, the Pioneers went ashore "wet-shod" with the infantry. Some of them joined in the fighting, and rounded up prisoners before setting down to their own expert tasks. Later, Pioneers served in the battle of Caen, at the crossing of the Orne, in the freeing of the island of Walcheren and in the opening of the port of Antwerp. At Arnhem, with the 1st Airborne Division, they flew to the scene of action for the first time. On the Rhine they operated the smokescreen under cover of which the Army crossed the Rhine. In the earlier stages of the war in the Middle East many races and creeds enlisted in the Pioneer Corps helped to build defences, aqueducts, and the great pipeline which carried the waters of the Nile far into the Western Desert.

Palestinian and Cypriot Companies were employed in the Greek and Crete campaigns of 1941 and suffered many casualties.

Woodcock-Bakshi Battle

It was recently announced in London, that the long-awaited light between Bruce Woodcock, the British heavyweight champion, and Joe Bakshi of the United States will take place at Harringay Arena on March 26. The bout will be recognised as an eliminating contest, the winner having the right to meet Joe Louis, the holder, in a fight for the world heavyweight championship. Bakshi's last appearance in a British ring was last year, when at Harringay he out fought British cruiserweight champion Freddie Mills, who retired after the fifth round of their gruelling battle.

Nazi-Banned Books In Mobile Library

The first mobile library for the use of German school children in Berlin has been put into operation by the American-run German Youth Activities Section of Tempelhof Air Base, according to Associated Press. The library contains 2,500 books in German, many of which were banned during the Nazi regime. Among the authors included are Dickens, Tolstoy, Verne, Twain, Schiller, Rousseau, Walpole, Grimm, Andersen, Balzac, Cervantes and Thoreau. The books were donated by the Swiss Book Aid organisation.

SHOWING TO-DAY **QUEEN'S** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
THE SCREEN'S MOST DRAMATIC 'TRUE STORY'... MORE ROMANCE, EXCITEMENT, DRAMA THAN FICTION WOULD DARE RECORD!
SHE TRADED HER FUTURE...

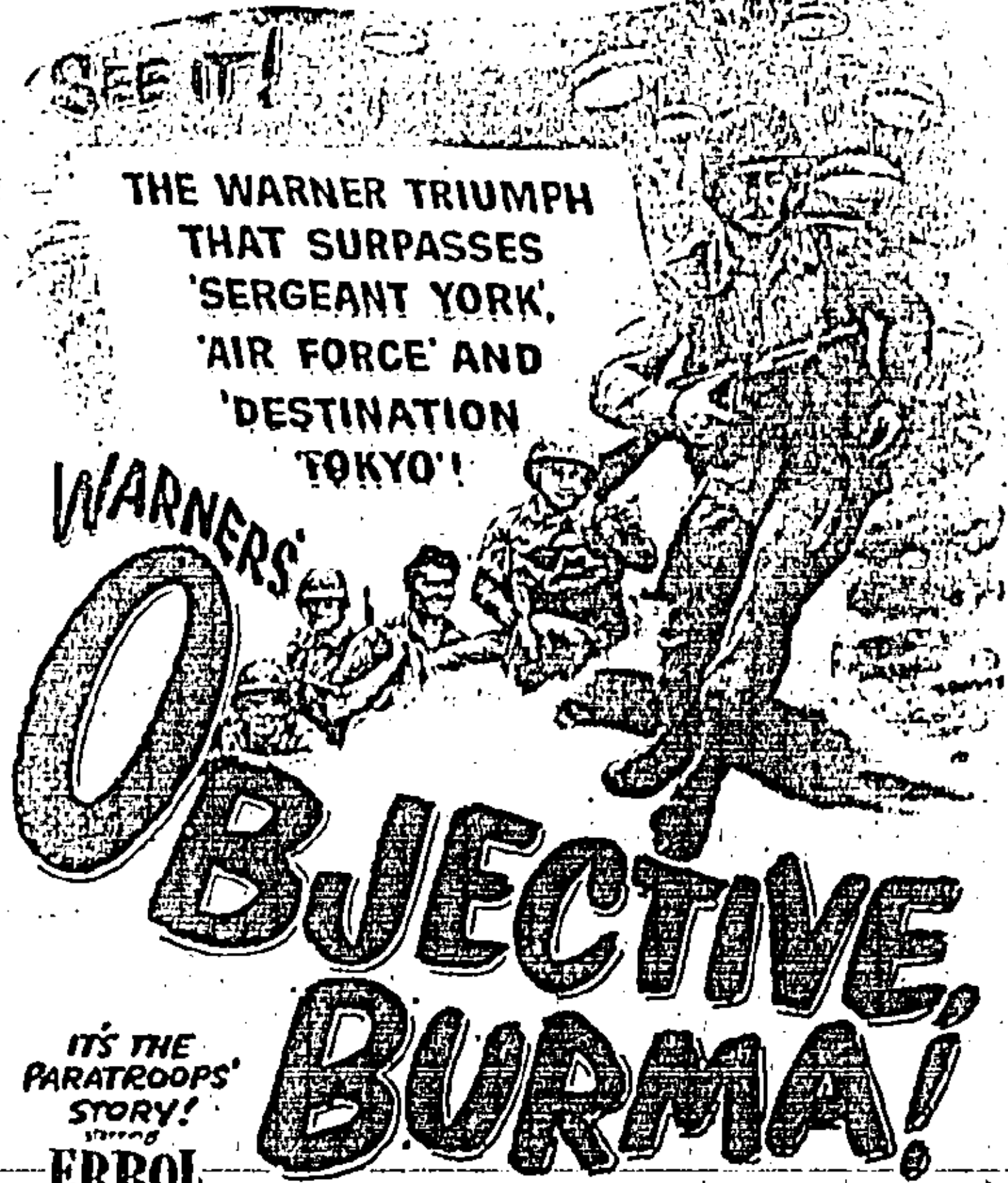


Rosalind Russell · Alexander Knox
SISTER KENNY
— DEAN JAGGER
Philip Merivale · Beulah Bondi · Charles Dingle
Produced and Directed by DAVID NICKOLSON · Screen Play by Bailey Swann · Alexander Knox and Mary McCarty

LEE THEATRE

TOWN BOOKING OFFICE
W. HARRING & CO., ALEXANDRA BLDG., GR. FL.
BETWEEN 11.00 A.M. AND 5.00 P.M. DAILY

COMMENCING TO-DAY AT 2.15, 4.45, 7.00 & 9.20 P.M.
(PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME)



THE WARNER TRIUMPH THAT SURPASSES 'SERGEANT YORK', 'AIR FORCE' AND 'DESTINATION TOKYO'!
WARNER'S OBJECTIVE BURMA!
IT'S THE PARATROOPS' STORY!
ERROL FLYNN
WILLIAM PRINCE · JAMES BROWN · DICK ERDMAN · GEO. TODIAS · HENRY HULL · WARNER ANDERSON
Directed by RAUL WALSH · Screen Play by Donald MacDougal and Lester Cole · From the Original Story by Alvin Sargent · Music by Francis & Harty

ORIENTAL

COMMENCING TO-DAY: 2.30-5.15-7.15-9.15 P.M.
THE WEST'S MOST FABULOUS TALE... THE WORLD'S MOST FASCINATING WOMAN! IT'S CHARMING!



SHOWING TO-DAY **MAJESTIC** At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.
THE MOST ROMANTIC RIOT SINCE EVE GAVE ADAM THE APPLE SAUCE!
Doanna DURBIN · Charles LAUGHTON
in
"IT STARTED WITH EVE"
with ROBERT CUMMINGS
A Universal Picture.

BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE

The British Film Institute has just published its annual report. It states that in 1946 the number of film societies in Britain increased from 20 to 67, and that the demand for lectures on every aspect of the film, ranging from the training of children's tastes to advanced studies of the structure of a particular picture, exceeded the supply. Requests for information came from almost every country in the world.

Broadcast Licences

There are now approximately 10,000,000 broadcast receiving licences in force in Britain and Northern Ireland. Of these, 4,450 are television licences. The Governors engaged a number of travelling organisers to give practical assistance to the growing demand for information and expert advice in visual education. During the year, also, 110 films and 200 new record items were acquired for permanent preservation in the Institute's national film library.

New 1,000 mph. Jet Plane

London, Mar. 20. The Ministry of Supply announced to-night that Britain's 1,000 mph jet-motored plane would be launched in the stratosphere over the Scilly Isles in April for its first test flight. A robot pilot will fly the supersonic plane.

All ships and aircraft have been warned to avoid the experimental area, 14 miles west of Bishop Rock and only a few miles north of the main Atlantic shipping lane, during tests.—United Press.

Rome's 'Black Panther' Breaks Down In Court

Rome, Mar. 20. Usually impassive and defiant, beautiful Celeste di Porto, the Rome ghetto's "Black Panther," who is accused of betraying her fellow Jews to the German SS, broke down and wept to-day when her emaciated cousin shrieked from the witness stand: "God has helped me escape from the Auschwitz gas chambers to come here and accuse you."

BELA KOVACS' ARREST

Efforts To Start Inquiry

London, Mar. 20. Britain, like the United States, has made a second attempt to secure an international investigation of the case of Bela Kovacs, leader of the Hungarian "Smallholders' Party" who was recently arrested by the Soviet authorities in Budapest.

A Foreign Office spokesman in London this morning stated that the British representative on the Allied Control Commission in Budapest yesterday handed a further communication to the Soviet representative, reaffirming the view that pressure had been brought to bear on the popularly elected government and that the whole situation ought to be investigated at once by the three powers (Britain, the United States and Soviet Russia) represented on the Control Commission and not by the Soviet Union alone.

The second move by the United States Government to secure a three-power investigation of the charges against Kovacs has already been rejected by the Soviet Union.—Reuter.

BIG PARIS ARMS HAUL

Paris, Mar. 20. The Ministry of the Interior announced to-night the discovery of hidden arms, among them three sub-machine-guns in good condition, in the northwest Paris suburb of Genevilliers.

The Ministry said the guns, along with 400 cartridge belts and several grenades, were uncovered in a sheet iron factory.

Three machine-gun belts with cartridges and several small arms were subsequently found at the home of Mario Fili, father of the factory director, in a neighbouring suburb, the Ministry said.—United Press.

BELGIUM'S NEW GOVERNMENT

Brussels, Mar. 20. The new Belgian Government, composed of eight Socialists, nine Social Christians and two non-party "technicians"—under the leadership of M. Paul Henri Spaak, will be sworn in to-day before the Regent, Prince Charles.

Communists and Liberals are replaced by the Catholic "Social Christian Party" in the new Cabinet. It commands a majority of 122 in the Chamber.—Reuter.

GUERRILLAS AND POLICE MIX IT

Madrid, Mar. 20. Nine people are reported killed and 40 arrested in a clash between guerrillas and police in Teruel area, some 200 miles east of Madrid.

Unidentified bandits held up the Requena to Valencia bus, robbing the occupants of money and valuables. They killed one civil guard who intervened and injured another. The Madrid-Valencia bus was also held up.

The authorities claim to have broken up the guerrilla plan to explode bombs during the St. Joseph's Fiesta in Valencia this week.—Reuter.

NO BIG SLASHING OF BRITISH ARMED STRENGTH

London, Mar. 20.

The Defence Minister, Mr. A. V. Alexander, announced to-day that, pending United Nations settlement of the Palestine problem, British troops will remain in the Holy Land to preserve law and order.

"Since the mandate for Palestine is ours that is our responsibility," Mr. Alexander said. "Our armed forces at the present time have to remain strong enough to assert the authority of the administration and to provide for the safety of our nationals and themselves and of those Palestine na-

tionals who eschew the methods of barbarity and terrorism."

Mr. Alexander also served notice that there would be no wholesale slashing of Britain's armed forces either at home or in other parts of the world. "Asking for approval of the Government's defence plan he told of the Government's conscription programme."

He said the United Nations Organisation is still too weak for Britain safely to reduce her armed forces below 1,772,000 men. "It is clear already," he declared in a Commons debate on the Government's White Paper on defence, "that the early stages of the United Nations Organisation will not enable the great powers of the world to dispense with their separate armed forces."

Mr. Alexander also made it plain that Britain would no longer disclose the fighting strength of her

armed forces in service estimates because "the Government feel that a policy of free exchange of information has been internationally agreed it is a mistake to revert to our prewar practice."

Not Against Publicity

This new policy, he declared, "does not mean that the Government is opposed to publicity of this kind."

Replying to left wing critics who complained that labour-short Britain is wasting manpower by maintaining a large army, navy and air force, Mr. Alexander declared: "I must emphasize that we cannot expect rapid relief until we can see more clearly the shape of things to come."

The Middle East, he said, remained a vital link in the security of the British Commonwealth, "and our legitimate requests must be safeguarded in that area."

"We are not prepared," he added, "to contemplate the total withdrawal of our forces from India in the short period before the final transfer of power." Pending settlement of the Palestine question now before the United Nations, Mr. Alexander said British troops will be kept there to preserve law and order.

Treaty With Egypt

"Our main line of Commonwealth communication still runs through the Mediterranean and the Suez Canal, and on the flank of that line lies Egypt with whom this country freely made a treaty in 1936 in the provisions of which both sides recognised those special defence interests of the British Commonwealth in that part of the world," he said.

"Until the treaty is superseded by another one freely negotiated between the two countries, they must continue to place reliance on the 1936 agreement.—Associated Press.

Russia Aims At Strongest Air Force

Indianapolis, Mar. 20. Senator Owen Brewster, (Republican of Maine) charged here to-day that Russia is attempting to build the world's strongest air force, while the United States has permitted its air force to fall to third in world ranking and its aircraft production to collapse to two percent of its wartime peak.

Addressing the American Legion's first aeronautics conference, Senator Brewster—considered a Senate expert on air power and national defence—said: "It is alarming to know that the major impact of any reduction in President Truman's budget will fall first on the Army air force."

He said Russia is spending \$4,000,000,000 more on the armed forces than is the United States. He said even economy-minded Britain's RAF is now larger than the U.S. air force.

Pointing to the menace of Russia's growing air power, he said: Russia has made crystal clear her intention of becoming the world's greatest air power. Sometimes one can infer the intentions of others from their suspicions.

"The establishment of four American weather stations in the Arctic last year brought a Soviet charge that it was a hostile and aggressive act aimed at Russia, yet no one in this country considers Russia's 100 Arctic weather stations hostile and aggressive."—United Press.

China Pact Sent To Senate

Washington, Mar. 20. President Harry Truman has sent to the Senate for ratification a treaty of "friendship, commerce and navigation" with China. It was signed on November 4 at Nanking.

President Truman said: "The treaty is a comprehensive instrument which takes into account the developments in international relationships during the past century and is intended to meet effectively the needs of the present day."—Associated Press.

Marshall's Request

Moscow, Mar. 20. United States Secretary of State Gen. George C. Marshall is reported to have asked Washington to provide urgently specific information concerning American implementation of the agreement on China, which he promised to furnish to Mr. Molotov, Mr. Bevin and M. Bidault in lieu of informal discussion of China which Molotov wanted.

The particulars requested, it is reported, include the exact number of American troops still in China and plans and dates of their eventual withdrawal.—United Press.

MOUNTBATTEN TO MEET WAVELL

London, Mar. 20. Viscount Mountbatten will confer with Viceroy Lord Wavell in New Delhi on Saturday when, for the first time in history, the retiring Viceroy will meet his successor on Indian soil, official quarters said to-day.

Lord Mountbatten's assumption of office on Monday had an additional historical aspect, with the great-grandson of India's first Empress, the coming of India's first Viceroy, officials pointed out.

Call For Funds To Rebuild Monte Cassino

Vatican City, Mar. 20. In an encyclical issued on the occasion of the fourteenth centennial anniversary of the death of St. Benedict, Pope Pius XII to-day called upon the faithful throughout the world to participate in the collection of funds to rebuild Monte Cassino Abbey, destroyed in November 1943 during the Allied drive towards Rome.

The encyclical is entirely religious and dedicated to the life of the saint, recalling his struggles and the foundation of the Benedictine Order throughout the world. Referring to the Abbey of Monte Cassino, the Pope recalled how he did everything possible "by means of persuasion, warnings and protests" to save the monastery from the "fury of war."

He added that he "nourished the faith that the mother house of the Benedictines would soon be rebuilt, and that, owing to how much the world owes to this Order, our appeal (for funds) is made to the rich especially and to all those who possess a generous soul."

The Pontiff concluded the encyclical, which is in Latin, with a special Apostolic benediction to Benedictine monks.—United Press.

Ho Chi-Minh Gives Up Post

Saigon, Mar. 20. Dr. Ho Chi-Minh, Viet Nam Premier, has given up the office of Foreign Minister, the Viet Nam Radio announced to-day.

Report current here says that the post has been taken over by Hoang Minh Guan, formerly Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

Another report says that Nguyen Phu Mai, Cochinchinese Minister of Information, has resigned for health reasons.

M. Emile Bollner, recently appointed High Commissioner for Indo-China, to-day sent a telegram to General Valluy, Commanding French troops. After conveying his best wishes to French troops in Indo-China, M. Bollner stated: "I want to assure all French nationals in Indo-China and all Indo-Chinese friends of France that I shall do all in my power to re-establish order and security in the peninsula and continue within the scope of the constitution of the French Union, work for progress and democracy."—Reuter.

BURMA DACOITS KILLED

Rangoon, Mar. 20. Seven bandits were killed and many others wounded in a night-long gun battle with the police at Mandalay, Upper Burma, two days ago, according to official reports received here to-day.

The dacoits are led by a notorious ex-convict who recently made an unsuccessful attempt on the life of the Mandalay superintendent of police.—Reuter.

POCKET CARTOON



March On Asuncion Ordered

Asuncion, Mar. 20. The revolutionary army radio station at Concepcion announced to-day that rebellious troops in northern Paraguay will be ordered to march on Asuncion in a decisive effort to drive President Higinio Morinigo from power.

The broadcast said the rebel march would be ordered by the "head of the revolutionaries in the Chaco."

The revolutionary centre lies about 150 miles north of Asuncion. At the same time, loyal Government forces commanded by Col. Federico Smith were reported preparing to advance northward to attack the revolutionary troops, who now claim to hold all of northern Paraguay.

Dispatches from Buenos Aires quoted travellers as saying that the rebels apparently had the initiative and were forcing the moving out of the government without bloodshed, or at least force it into negotiations leading to a general election.

The area held by the rebels is the richest part of Paraguay.—United Press.

Rebels Extend Control

Buenos Aires, Mar. 20. With support guerrillas scattered throughout the swamps of Chaco Boreal, the Paraguayan revolutionary forces have widened their grip on the northern part of the country.

Chaco Boreal, known as "green hell," was the scene of a bloody war with Bolivia a decade ago.

Independent estimates indicate at least half of Paraguay's armed forces are now in the rebel ranks.

Despite General Morinigo's announcement a week ago of a "mass offensive" against Concepcion, no major operation has occurred.

Both sides during the past 24 hours reported patrol skirmishes in the region of the Ypane River and air attacks against opponents' land and river communications.—Reuter.

4,000 Mile Trip For Drydock

Bombay, Mar. 20. A £1,250,000 floating drydock, capable of berthing a 50,000 ton ship, started to-day on a six-week trip from Bombay to an unannounced destination in the Mediterranean as a component of the British Navy.

Seven Admiralty tugs towed the drydock in two sections for the trip of about 4,000 miles.

The Suez Canal will be the most difficult part of the journey, because at one point the bulky structure will have only 15 inches clearance on each side.—Associated Press.

Hongkong Police Reserve

ORDERS NO. 5 OF 1947
Governor's Inspection

All ranks of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies will attend Murray Parade Ground on Tuesday, March 25, 1947 at 11 hours sharp for an inspection by His Excellency The Governor.

Dress—Uniform.
Sgd. T. O. Ts'o,
Senior Superintendent of Police,
(Reserve).

CHILD KILLED IN EXPLOSION

Hamburg, Mar. 20. A violent explosion in Hamburg this afternoon killed one child and severely injured four workers. The explosion occurred in the underground drainage system, which was blown up, and the windows of neighbouring houses were shattered.—Reuter.

Paulino Betz Wins

Cannes, Mar. 20. Miss Pauline Betz (United States) to-day defeated Miss Helene Liley (Great Britain) 6-0 and 6-1 in her first match at the Cannes International Tennis Tournament.—United Press.

CHALK PIT MURDER:

Evidence Of Company Director's Actions

London, Mar. 20. The talk in which Thomas John Ley was said to have asked for a man who could keep his mouth shut was described when the Chalk Pit murder trial was resumed at the Old Bailey to-day.

Ley, 66-year-old company director of Beaufort Gardens, Chelsea, and Laurence John Smith, 38-year-old joiner, of Belvoir Road, East Dulwich, are charged with murdering John McBain Mudge, 35-year-old barman, whose body was found in a chalk pit in Surrey on November 30.

Joseph Minden, a porter at the Royal Hotel of Holborn, to-day said that late last year Ley said to him: "I want a man with a car who can keep his mouth shut." He knew Ley as a solicitor and thought that it might be in the pursuance of duty and asked if it was legal. Ley replied that it was and added: "The man could earn a year's salary in a matter of weeks."

Ley gave him a telephone number, which he passed to a car hire man named Buckingham. Later, Ley gave him £10.

John Buckingham told the court that after being approached by Minden he met Ley, who told him that he was an ex-solicitor and had met two ladies, who were being blackmailed. Ley said that he wanted to "get something" on the blackmailer.

Ley introduced him to Smith, who said that Ley had told him that a young woman had been seduced at Wimbledon and that he wanted Buckingham to help him and Ley.

Enough Evidence

Buckingham said that about 14 days before he went to Reigate he had a special appointment to meet Ley, who told him that he now had enough evidence against the man to make him sign a confession. He wanted Buckingham to go with Smith to fetch a man whose name was Mudge and who was a Reigate barman.

Ley said that the man was to be tied up by Buckingham and Smith and driven to London. Buckingham said that Ley had told him that for his part he would get payment equal to a year's salary. Ley handed him £10. He finally received £200. He and Smith arranged that a friend, Mrs. Bruce, housekeeper, who was a chauffeur's wife, could invite Mudge to be at a "cocktail party."

Buckingham described how on the evening of November 28 he was

HUSH-HUSH OVER ROCKET BOMB TESTS

Canberra, Mar. 20. Everything in connection with the forthcoming rocket bomb tests in Southern Australia will be a closely guarded secret, official sources disclose, stating that extraordinary precautions are being taken against espionage—even to the making of a study of reports on the Canadian atomic energy spy trial.

To-day all ships are investigated as they reach Australian ports to prevent the infiltration of spies who might seek to masquerade as passengers or alien refugees.

Additionally, all British and Australian technicians who take part in the research are to be subjected to the most rigid security tests, before and after the experiments.—Associated Press.

EXPEDITIONS TO ARCTIC

At least three nations will be sending expeditions to the Arctic this year, with the possible result of rival national claims being made to Arctic territories.

Danish interests, with the support of business interests in the United States, are seeking British backing for a North Greenland expedition.

Mr. Einar Munk, Danish wartime resistance leader, has arrived in Britain to enlist the help of the Scott Polar Research Institute of Cambridge for an expedition which he proposes to lead this summer to survey Northern Greenland and to remain for three years on Perry Land.

The Norwegian Government also plans an expedition this summer to bring supplies and relief personnel to the Norwegian weather and trapping station at Nythuta, on the northeast coast of Greenland.

In addition to a further Norwegian expedition, proposed to survey the Arctic north of Spitzbergen, it has also been learned that Russia has dispatched an expedition to Northern Greenland for the study of herring fisheries.

NEW NAMES FOR TWO WARS

The newspaper Vrij Nederland suggests that the conflict of 1914-1918 be known to history as the "World War" and that between 1939-1943 the "Total War," raising an objection to the Anglo-American reference to World War I and World War II.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Posts close 30 minutes earlier than the time stated below.

Friday, March 21
Airmail: Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Brest, Cairo, Johannesburg, Augusta, Marseilles, London, New York, Canton, 12.30 p.m.
Kunming, Canton, Hankow, 3.30 p.m.
Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, 3.30 p.m.
Steam: Shanghai, 2 p.m.
Hongkong, 2 p.m.
Bangkok, Madras, 3 p.m.
Kongkoon, 4 p.m.
Nacoo, Tientsin, Shekhi, 4 p.m.
Swatow, Amoy, Foochow, 2 p.m.
Train: Canton, 4 p.m.
Saturday, March 22
Airmail: 10 a.m.
Bangkok, Singapore, Colombo, Sourabaya, Sydney, Auckland, 12.30 p.m.
Canton, Lanchow, Kunming, Chungking, 3.30 p.m.
Steam: Swatow, 10 a.m.
Nanking, noon.
Bangkok, 2 p.m.
Nacoo, Tientsin, Shekhi, 4 p.m.
Manila, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa, noon.
Train: Canton, 4 p.m.
Sunday, March 23
Airmail: Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Sydney, Auckland, London, 10 a.m.
Canton, Lanchow, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, 10 a.m.
Steam: Swatow, 10 a.m.
Kongkoon, 10 a.m.
Nacoo, Tientsin, Shekhi, 10 a.m.
Train: Canton, 10 a.m.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

ZBW on 445 kilocycles from 12.30 to 2 p.m. and 6.30 to 11 p.m., and also on 5.2 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.30 to 1.15, 6.30 to 7.30 and 9 to 11 p.m. 11.15.
6.30. Film Memories: 7. London Relay: World News: 7.10. London Relay: Home News from Britain: 7.15. "Romance and Rhythm": 7.30. Studio: "You Asked For Variety": 8.00. Studio: "Programme arranged by Lynn Fraser": 8.30. "Maritime Moments": 9. London Relay: News: 9.10. Studio: Recital by Henry Ballet (Chorale) with Piano Accompaniment by Betty Brown: 9.30. Studio: Benjamin Durrant—"The Forest Song"—Produced by Clement Warrick: 10. Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra: 10.15. Puccini's "Madama Butterfly": Act I—By Principals, Chorus and Orchestra of La Scala, Opera, Milan: 11. Close Down.

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